



# Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

## January 2008

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement  
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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

**Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at [gscoe@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:gscoe@deq.virginia.gov).**

### Be the Change! Share the Story!

Earth 911 and Quantum Shift TV are staging a youth video contest. Students from the United States and Canada are invited to upload videos that show what they want to do in their communities to address social and environmental issues. The goal of this project is to encourage students to be innovative problem solvers and bring about positive changes to their world.

The contest is open to students in 1<sup>st</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Students must upload two videos. The first video outlines what the students want to do to improve their community and must be posted by January 31, 2008. The second video documents the progress that the students have made must be posted by March 31, 2008.

There are approximately 20 examples of recycling videos that have been uploaded and are available for viewing. For more information, go to: <http://earth911.org/for-students/national-contests/>

### Earth Summit 2007

The Theme of the annual Earth Summit in **Roanoke** this year was; "Why Go Green?" It was held at the Roanoke Higher Education Center on November 1, 2007 and was coordinated by Ann Masters of the **Clean Valley Council**.

Students had the opportunity to participate in two out of five workshops and watched a fashion Show with articles made from reused t-shirts. The sessions were:

- ✓ Waterways, and Water Ways – Exploring water and its ways; conservation, preservation, public use and responsibility.
- ✓ Light, Camera, Action – Students made their own environmental public service announcements.
- ✓ Rescued 2 A T – Students reused and redesigned t-shirts to be used in a fashion show as other garments and complete outfits.
- ✓ Environmental Economics – Students had the opportunity to participate in a game that demonstrated the up front costs as well as the back end savings of "going green."
- ✓ What our Students are Doing! – Students from **Radford University** shared their research and gave a presentation on their conservation station and work that they are doing with stormwater wetland and bio-fuel research project.

Contact Ann Masters: [ann@cleanvalley.org](mailto:ann@cleanvalley.org) or (540) 345-5523.

### Did You Know?

- ✓ The Recycling Rate Report form for CY 2007 is available! Go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/mandatory.html> to download a copy of the form and to get more information. The report is due to the Office of Recycling and Litter Prevention by April 30, 2008. Please contact Sheila Barnett at [smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov) or (804) 698-4055 or Steve Coe at [gscoe@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:gscoe@deq.virginia.gov) or (804) 698-2389 if you have questions.
- ✓ The American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) is accepting nominations for businesses, communities, schools, and universities that have recycling programs worthy of recognition. They will be recognizing groups in the following categories: business leadership, community recycling, college and university recycling and school-wide recycling. Entries must be received by Thursday, January 31, 2008. Go to <https://paperrecyclingawards.org/>
- ✓ The Environment Virginia 2008 Conference will be held April 1 – 3, 2008 in Lexington. The cutoff date for early registration is January 11, 2008. For more information and to register, go to [www.environmentva.org](http://www.environmentva.org)
- ✓ The **Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA)** held e-waste collections in November for Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico Counties and the City of Richmond. They received over 79,000 pounds of electronics. For more information, contact Kelly Caddell at [kcaddell@cvwma.com](mailto:kcaddell@cvwma.com) or (804) 359-8413.
- ✓ The Virginia Recycling Association (VRA) is seeking nominations for their 2008 awards for excellence in waste reduction, recycling and litter. To see a list of award categories and to download a nomination form, go to: <http://www.vrarecycles.org/> or call Brandy Derry at (540) 542-6310. The deadline for nominations to be received is March 17, 2008.
- ✓ The University of Virginia hosted a "dumpster dive" on November 14, 2007 as part of their America Recycles Day festivities. In the fall of 2006, students determined that approximately 50 percent of what was in the dumpster could have been recycled. Contact Sonny Beale, UVA Recycling Superintendent at [bcb8s@virginia.edu](mailto:bcb8s@virginia.edu) or (434) 982-5438.

## Recycling Lines Continued

### EPA Presented 31WasteWise and 17 National Partnership for Environmental Priorities Partners Awards

WasteWise EPA partners were recognized for their waste management methods to reduce waste and recycle while NPEP EPA partners were recognized for reducing and removing significant amounts of toxic chemicals from being released into the environment. Combined, the 17 NPEP partners that the EPA recognized reduced or eliminated nearly 4 million pounds of harmful chemicals from the environment.

The Federal-Mogul Corporation – Powertrain Systems facility in **Blacksburg** was one of the NPEP award winners. They achieved an 80% reduction in lead usage by greatly reducing their use of lead and other toxics. They also switched to using new aluminum alloys that are more environmentally friendly.

For more information about the awards, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/non-hw/reduce/wstewise/conf/awardees.htm>

### RecycleMania 2008

Registration is now open to colleges and universities across America to participate in the 2008 RecycleMania program! RecycleMania will run from January 27 – April 5, 2008. Colleges and universities compete to collect the largest amount of recyclables per capita, the largest amount of total recyclables, and the least amount of trash per capita or have the highest recycling rate. Schools are requested to register by January 18, 2008.

In 2007, more than 200 colleges and universities took part in RecycleMania and they collectively reported that they collected 41.3 million pounds of recyclables.

The following schools in Virginia have already registered:

- ✓ **Eastern Mennonite University**
- ✓ **Liberty University**
- ✓ **Virginia Tech**

For more information about RecycleMania, go to the RecycleMania website: [www.recyclemaniacs.org](http://www.recyclemaniacs.org) or call (843) 278-7686.

### William and Mary Graduate Students Studied Recycling in Virginia

Three students in the public policy graduate program at William and Mary studied recycling in Virginia. They sought to determine the value of Virginia's recycling industry and to research what factors determine how well a solid waste planning unit does in collecting recyclables, finding markets, and diverting waste from the landfills.

Alexander Miller, Hang Nguyen, and Samantha Sifleet gave a presentation to interested DEQ staff on the most up-to-date data that they had collected. As of December 4, 2007, 77% of the Solid Waste Planning Units (SWPU) had responded to their survey. The students provided DEQ with their final report in late December.

The Joint Legislative and Audit Review Commission (JLARC) is also studying recycling in Virginia. For more information about the JLARC study or the student's report, contact Steve Coe at [gscoe@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:gscoe@deq.virginia.gov) or (804) 698-4289.

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### Free School Recycling Workshops by the VRA

The Virginia Recycling Association (VRA) will host a series of free school recycling workshops from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on March 10, 2008 in the City of Richmond.

The workshop will be free to anyone who wishes to attend or have a display. The VRA is targeting recycling educators, solid waste program managers, school personnel, colleges and universities and parents.

The following topics will be discussed:

- ✓ The status of school recycling in Virginia
- ✓ Success Story: Virginia Beach Department of Waste Management, How Virginia Beach implemented a city-wide recycling program in their schools.
- ✓ Who pays for school recycling?
- ✓ Public Procurement Policies: How to work with your purchasing department to explain how to pay for recycling in schools
- ✓ Who can service our school's recycling? – Vendors from across the Commonwealth will be available to discuss how they can set up collections for your school's recyclables.

For more information and to register for this workshop, contact Erica Trout at (804) 302-4231 or [ericatrout@msn.com](mailto:ericatrout@msn.com)

### Partnership to Recycle

Students at D.G. Cooley Elementary School in **Clarke County** and Senseny Road and Apple Pie Ridge Elementary Schools in **Frederick County** and Daniel Morgan Middle School in **Winchester** are collecting used plastic grocery store bags for Trex Company Inc. The bags will be combined with wood waste to make "composite wood." The composite wood will be used to construct the walkways and railings around a new building that will be added to the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum. The project is called "Partnership to Recycle." The museum's goal is to earn a platinum certification as a green building through the use of the recycled lumber.

For more information about Partnership to Recycle, contact Niki Wilson at [nwilson@discoverymuseum.net](mailto:nwilson@discoverymuseum.net) or (540) 722-2020

### Web Links of Interest:

Check out the EPA's Basic Facts about MSW:

<http://www.epa.gov/msw/facts.htm>

Go Green! Monthly Newsletter from the EPA

The EPA recently launched a monthly newsletter. Keep up with the latest news from the EPA. Go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/newsroom/gogreen/>

OurEarth.org

Has information about the latest in recycling and other environmental issues from around the world. Go to:

<http://www.iigemu.com/index.htm>